

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIEST 00233 161945Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20  
IO-14 OMB-01 /092 W  
-----115909 180822Z /20

R 161615Z MAY 78  
FM AMCONSUL TRIESTE  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0875  
AMCONSUL FLORENCE  
AMCONSUL GENOA  
AMCONSUL MILAN  
AMCONSUL NAPLES  
AMCONSUL PALERMO  
AMCONSUL TURIN

UNCLAS TRIESTE 0233

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, IT  
SUBJ: DC GAINS IN VENETO LOCAL ELECTIONS

REF: TRIESTE 0201

1. THE 160,000 ITALIANS WHO VOTED MAY 14 AND 15 IN VENETO LOCAL ELECTIONS GAVE THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (DC) A BOOST AND DEALT THE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) ITS FIRST SETBACK AT POLLS IN RECENT MEMORY. IN TWELVE TOWNS OF OVER 5,000 INHABITANTS WHERE PROPORTIONAL SYSTEM APPLIES, DC GAINED 45.6 PERCENT OF VOTE, COMPARED TO 42.7 PERCENT IN 1976, 40.5 PERCENT IN 1975, AND 42.1 PERCENT IN THE 1972 LOCAL ELECTIONS. PCI, WHICH HAD INCREASED SHARE OF VOTE FROM 27.7 PERCENT IN 1972 TO 32.8 PERCENT IN 1976, DROPPED BACK TO 29.3 PERCENT THIS TIME. THE SOCIALIST PARTY S SHARE OF VOTE ALSO DECLINED.

2. IN CHIOGGIA TRADITIONALLY PRO-LEFT FISHING CENTER NEAR  
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VENICE, DC GAINED 46 PERCENT OF THE VOTE (COMPARED TO 38.5 PERCENT IN 1972), OUSTING PREVIOUS PCI/PSI/PSDI COALITION FROM CONTROL OF CITY GOVERNMENT. DC ALSO GAINED A MAJORITY IN FELTRE, SECOND LARGEST CITY OF BELLUNO PROVINCE, AND PREVIOUSLY DOMINATED BY A LEFTIST COALITION WITH A COMMUNIST MAYOR.

3. FOLLOWING ARE RETURNS FOR THE 12 COMUNI WITH OVER 5,000 INHABITANTS (COMPLETE RETURNS FOR THE ENTIRE VENETO ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE):

PARTY	COMMUNAL 1978	COMMUNAL 1976	NATIONAL 1975	REGIONAL 1972	COMMUNAL
DC	45.6	42.7	40.5	42.1	
PCI	29.3	32.8	31.6	27.7	
PSI	10.5	11.0	12.6	12.1	
PSDI	4.8	4.2	5.8	6.9	
MSI-DN	2.8	3.8	4.3	4.5	
PRI	1.9	2.4	2.0	2.3	
PLI	1.3	0.9	1.7	2.3	
DN	0.4	-	-	-	
OTHERS	3.4	0.1	0.4	2.1	
PR	-	0.6	-	-	

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DP	-	1.5	1.1	-
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4. WHILE NO SOLID EVIDENCE EXISTS, STRONG SHOWING BY DC AND LOSSES OF LEFTIST PARTIES PROBABLY IN LARGE PART DUE TO REACTION TO GROWING CLIMATE OF VIOLENCE IN ITALY, AND PARTICULARLY TO MURDER OF MORO BY COMMUNIST EXTREMISTS. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH VENETO POLITICAL LEADERS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS FOR REACTIONS TO ELECTION RESULTS. SCIACCHITANO.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, LOCAL ELECTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2672871  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DC GAINS IN VENETO LOCAL ELECTIONS  
**TAGS:** PINT, IT  
**To:** ROME  
**Type:** TE  
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